

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are pending. Claims 1-9 are allowed. By this Response, claim 10 is amended, Fig. 3 is corrected, a new title is provided and claims 11-18 are cancelled. Reconsideration and allowance based on the above-amendments and following remarks are respectfully requested.

The Office Action suggests that the title be revised to read on the structure to which the claims are directed. In response, applicant has corrected to title as suggested in the Office Action, the new title being "APPARATUS FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT".

Also, applicant notes that Fig.3 has been corrected in accordance with the necessary corrections provided on the PTO-948 form.

The Office Action rejects claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Sherry (U.S. Patent No. 5,757,617) in view of Williams Vigliaturo (U.S. Patent No. 6,307,998). This rejection is respectfully traversed. The Office Action alleges that Sherry teaches each of the claimed features except for a catch basin having a window being configured to receive pin connectors. The Office Action alleges that Vigliaturo provides the above-noted claimed feature which is absent from Sherry's teachings and that the combination of Sherry's teachings with Vigliaturo's teachings provide applicant's claimed invention as recited in claim 10. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Claim 10 recites, *inter alia*, a catch basin module insertable into a slot in the telecommunications device in which at least of the electronic modules would

normally be disposed, said catch basin module having a window, said window including a lip and being configured to receive the pin connectors.

The Office Action alleges that the chassis 20 in Vigliaturo refers to applicant's claimed catch basin. Further, the Office Action alleges that the side openings 29 in the chassis are the same as applicant's claimed windows. Applicant respectfully submits, however, that the side openings 29 of Vigliaturo are openings which serve the purpose of allowing cables into and out of the chassis. See column 2, lines 59-61. The openings are not configured to receive pin connectors as claimed in the present invention. Further, the openings of the chassis do not include a lip, which is part of the window of the present invention and recited in claim 10.

Thus, the combination of Sherry and Vigliaturo fail to teach or suggest, *inter alia*, a catch basin module insertable into a slot in the telecommunications device in which at least one of the electronic modules would normally be disposed, said catch basin module having a window, said window including a lip and being configured to receive the pin connectors , as recited in claim 10.

Therefore, the combination of Sherry and Vigliaturo fail to teach each and every feature of the claimed invention as required under 35 U.S.C. §103 rejection. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claim 10 is distinguishable over the cited patents. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Chad J. Billings (Reg. No. 48,917) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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